



Photo History



July 2005 - December 2005 (Volume 9)





July 2005 - (Volume 9)

Well, another volume in the continuous record. Fun to take the images and fun to sit at home later, collate, choose and sort the images and a great reminder of what fun life can be. Enjoy life as it unfolds and don't wait "for that rainy day"there may be a long drought period ahead....



dragonfly in the garden

Early July Marianne and Peter took us to The Stewards Enclosure at Henley Regatta and it was a fabulous day out. The weather behaved for once and some of the sights were a total eye-opener. The 'old-boys' in their original (if somewhat shrunken blazers and caps) gave an insight to a side of society that is slightly outdated and a reflection of a bygone era that still continues with similar annual events. It is a great way to forget the daily grind. Guinness and oysters, champagne and Pimms, pretty summer dresses and the set lunch of salmon and strawberries in the marquee.



The 'old boys'

The races and the constant 'armada' of small boats of every description that went along that beautiful part of the Thames was entertaining and we were delighted to have been part of Henley 2005



HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

JULY 2ND'05





Elvis cruising down
the Thames





A very mild summer seemed to encourage the baskets to grow better than ever and we had to duck down to get in the front door..It seems that Ben also enjoys gardening so it seems that I'm not 'that boring old fart' any more!



Larnie is developing well at school and her education is very well structured and she is doing well. Possibly our only criticism is the over-emphasis on religion but that is to be expected..she has got delightful friends there and Tammy has also made lots of friends with other Mums.



Sunday lunch at Ros and Mike's is always such a 'gemutlich' time that lunch
S t r e t c h e s into the evening and we leave when Mike pointedly winds
the clock, and puts the cat out in his pyjamas (that is Mike's not the cat's)



Tammy, Ben and Larnie invited us for a Moroccan meal
and it was a delightful evening enjoyed by all

at their place



July seemed to be a very varied month and a very family-orientated month...great



On 16th September, we went to watch an historic flotilla on the Thames - a recreation of Lord Nelson's waterborne funeral procession



Guns were fired and a assorted flotilla of boats went past and it was a great spectacle that was not well attended or well publicised .

An interesting sand sculpture was produced outside the festival Hall which is currently being totally refurbished and restaurants and bookshops etc are being constructed on the Thames side of the building



Every time we walk along there we see more and more tourists and feel like we have shared this great area from early times when it really was very inaccessible to the present well known and well-frequented part of the 'tourist route'. It really is not surpassed by any city we have been to.
We still love it here.. The old saying "When you are tired of London, you are tired of life" rings true to us...



DP and Marina in
reflective mood
in the garden

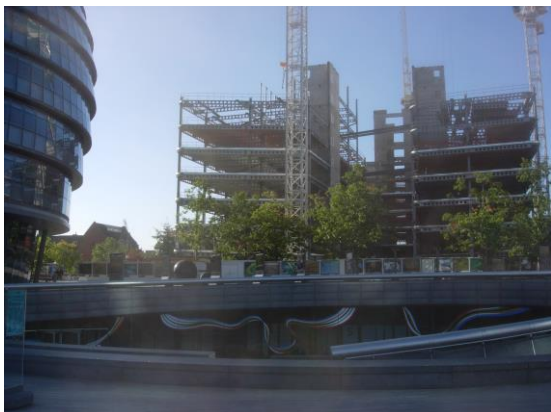


I have no idea why
I look so happy...I
was out shopping at
Debenhams with
Lynn, maybe I'm in
a mesmerised state





Views of London that I love...the ever-changing landscape. Historic shots of buildings that in time will become icons of the London scene...





...and shots of the London that I hate.....the ever-present CCTV cameras..but this overhead gantry takes the prize for the most I have ever seen in one location. People in London appear on more cameras than anywhere in the Western world...what a claim for fame that is!! They say that we appear on over 300 cameras before we get to work...maybe we should ask for royalties

On a happier note , we had a few lunch parties at home and the weather proved great on most occasions allowing us to eat outside. Here Julie and Jeff and Norma and Jeff joined us



The new French windows make a great difference to how we can use the lounge and 'brings' the garden into the house.



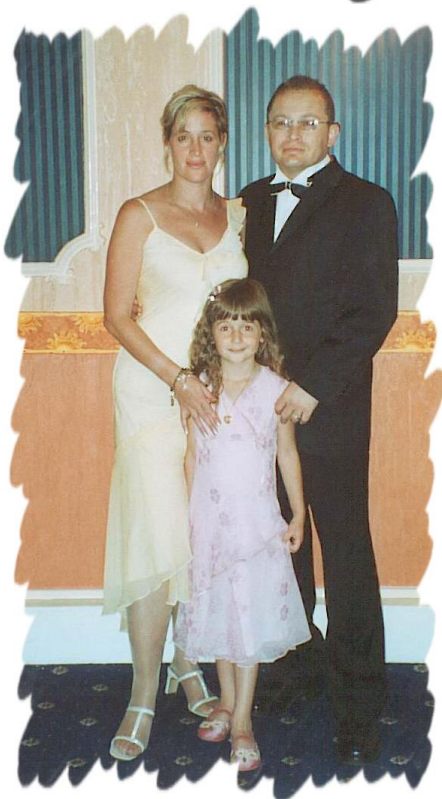
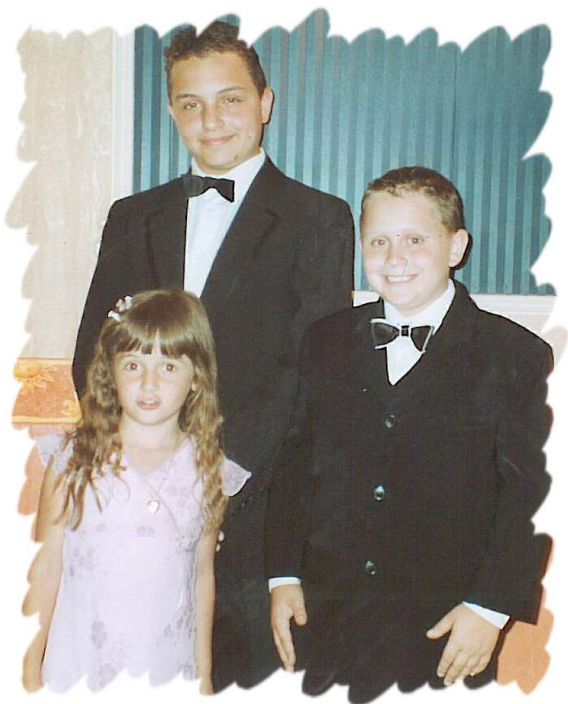


A fun and wonderful Yomtov meal at Tammy & Ben's. Larnie helped and Stuart, Sharon and the 'newly weds' and Mum were also there



Country shots around cold Christmas in
October'05





The Hur family, dressed
to kill- in July'05



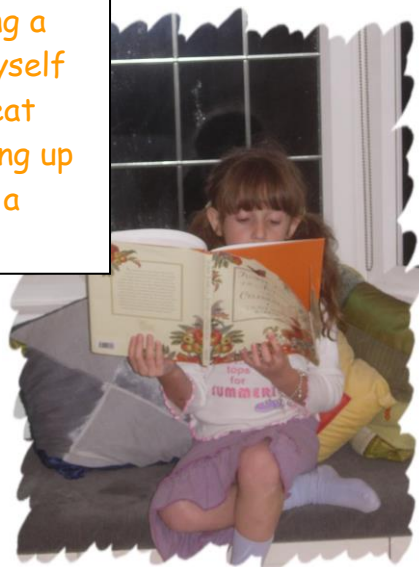
The summer of 2005 allowed us to have a lot of great days that were not planned...like when Tammy phoned on the spur of the moment and said, "I'm going over to Oakwood Park with Larnie..join us"

The weather was great and these simple pleasures make life such a joy.





Larnie is becoming a bookworm like myself and Tammy..a great delight just curling up and getting 'into' a book



A sunny, muddy walk around Forty Hall clears the mind and we always forget the mundane routine of everyday





Sometimes we look at a map and decide "let's go there" . Shotley Point appealed to us. It was on the Orwell Estuary. The journey was great (with morning coffee in an old tea shop). The destination had a great pub with a delicious fish and chip lunch overlooking the water. We walked along the shore and I was in my element photographing everything. The return journey included 'stocking-up' with home made jamsheaven!!!



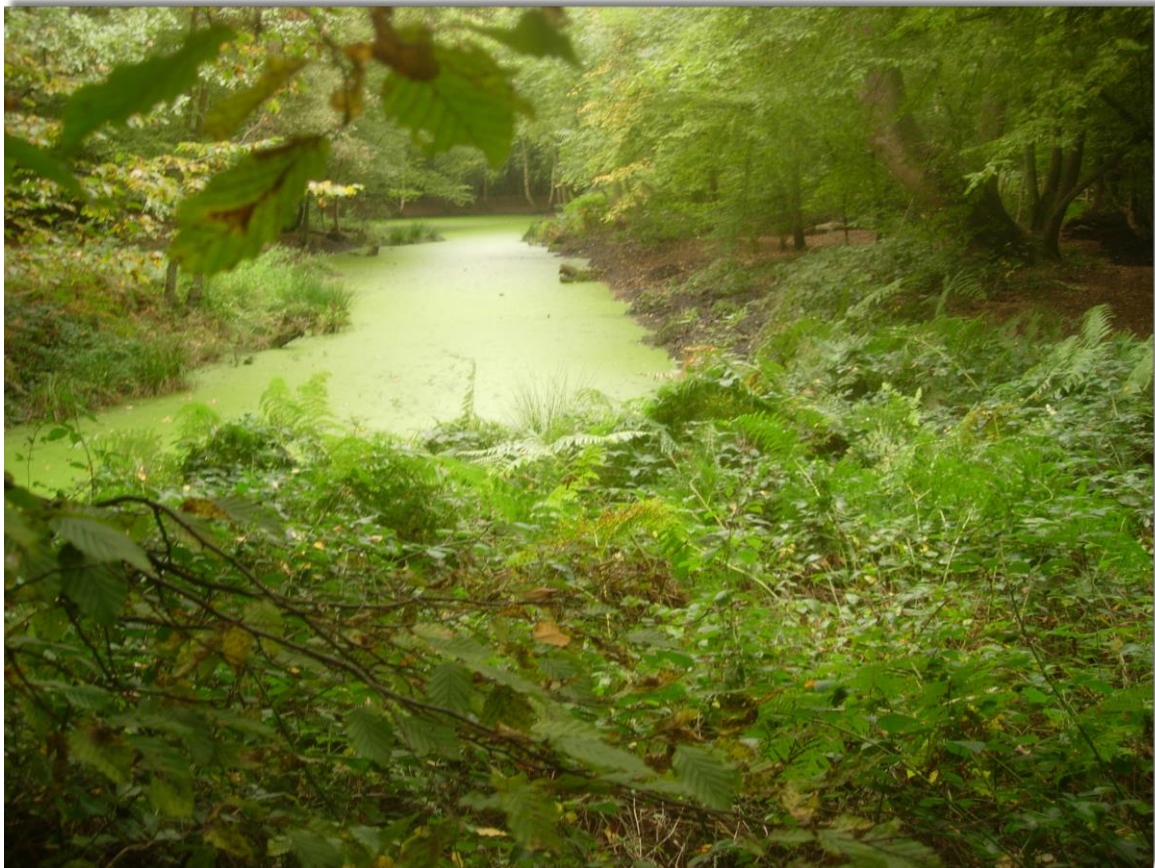




At Pin Mill we found this old boat in the mud and lots of fantastic eccentric houseboats each one more bizarre than the next



Whitewebbs often appears in my albums but despite its close proximity to town it still retains an air of mystery when one takes the trouble to walk off the beaten track. I remember coming here when I was a kid and have always enjoyed this country park. Lynn and I love the tranquillity of this park and the ponds and woods are different in every season







And when I have a
Pimms I drink it by
the gallon....

Larnie and friends appeared in **frightening** outfits.....





In November we went to New York for a rushed fun-packed few days to attend Vivian and Walters son, Jeremy's wedding. As always, I took so many photos that I have made two separate volumes of 'New York' so will not put them here. Rudi and Renee met us and we went back to their great seeing them again. New at the W hotel right on Times floor...what a great view. We a local Italian restaurant one Carnegies and also watched and at The Rockefeller things. We walked everywhere ceremony a crowd of us went morning trip on the Staten perspective that we had not crammed two weeks of fun into 3 days and have the photos and memories to bring it back...Great fun



apartment for a meal. It was York was such fun. We stayed Square.....onthe 56th had a fabulous meal in Soho in night...a deli 'blow out' in the skating in Central Park Centre. All the tourist and after the wedding for lunch together. An early Island Ferry gave us a seen before. We really

In November Lynn and I went to see DP, Angela and Beau-Phinneas at Radford Mill Farm near Bath. We were made , as always, very welcome and Angela is getting larger by the moment. The new addition hopefully will be around early January 2006..The morning was cold and very sunny and the country views were unique.







" Hey Mum I think this rubbish drawing is supposed to be me"....



Radford Mill Farm....







Ryan-Air had a great offer that arrived by email...flights for 1p..well who can resist an offer like that. Trouble is by the time you add on airport taxes, hotel, cab to the airport, spending money ...it aint so cheap. Martin & Maxine joined us and we laughed our way round Gdansk.

The hotel was great and we managed to visit the shop that Mums folks owned.



It was a fine art and antique bookseller with a basement store, large shop window and uncle etc lived above. It is now an expensive amber shop with flats above approached from the rear. It commands one of the best positions in Gdansk (formerly Danzig) at 22 Langemarkt. Mum could not get over the fact that we had seen it.







"Mum, Dad, what are you doing on Thursday 15th Dec" said Tammy.

We checked..."Nothing at present"

"Great, keep it free I've planned a surprise" she replied.

"What sort of surprise??"

"If I told you it wouldn't be a surprise"

Well you can't argue with logic like that...actually you can't argue with Tammy period.

So provided with a "Tammy-style" food parcel that a third world country would give their right arm for we alighted on a fantastic steam train with about 300-400 others and were transported in great luxury to Canterbury - satsumas, mince pies, crackers, mulled wine and Santa were all there.



We were then invited to a delightful carol concert in the cathedral which was totally enthralling in a magnificent setting. We the spent a great day mooching around the city and the weather was sunny and warm. It was a totally memorable day...thank you again Tammy and Ben

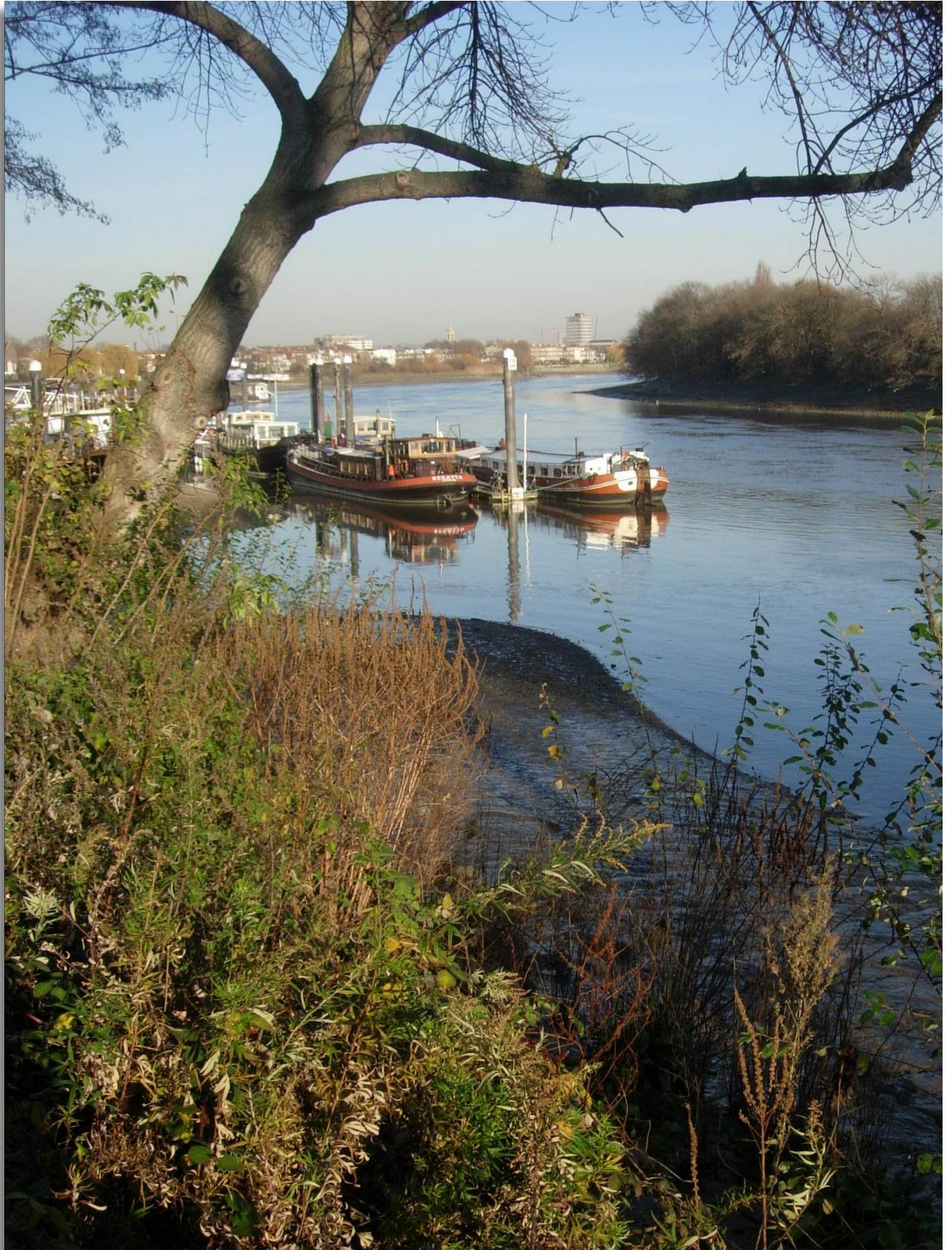




December '05

The year is drawing to a close and every opportunity that we get we turn into a great day...here we were in Barnes on business and when we had finished we walked along the Thames. The weather was sunny with a blue sky and the Thames was sparkling.









Well, it's that time of year again...it comes round quicker every year..
Parties galore to be catered.

The Christmas meal at home - just mum this year and it was perfect





Xmas 2005

Less folks than usual for the annual pilgrimage for the corny traditional photo...but the weather was so good it made it worth struggling out of bed for



Xmas 2005



Xmas 2005

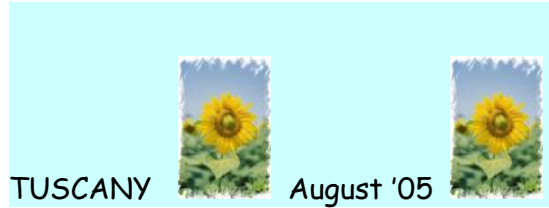
A great year... great fun and shared with the greatest family, extended family and wonderful friends that anyone could hope for. A special thank you to you Lynn for putting up with me and for your generous spirit and being the best wife in the world !!!!



December 2005 at Radford Mill Farm



Beau-Phineas with his latest artistic creation



In August we went to Tuscany with Mum and Larnie and the four of us had a great time. We flew to Pisa where we picked up an Alfa Romeo (which proved to be a disaster on wheels). We drove to Villa Mecchio-an Etruscan farmhouse in the hills above Florence where we had a delightful villa and private pool surrounded by Franco's vineyard and olive trees. We cooked great meals (with Larnie's help) and ate out in fabulous local restaurants. Larnie learnt to swim and we visited Pisa and enjoyed the local Chianti trail.





Around
Florence





...and there were bigger ones!!!

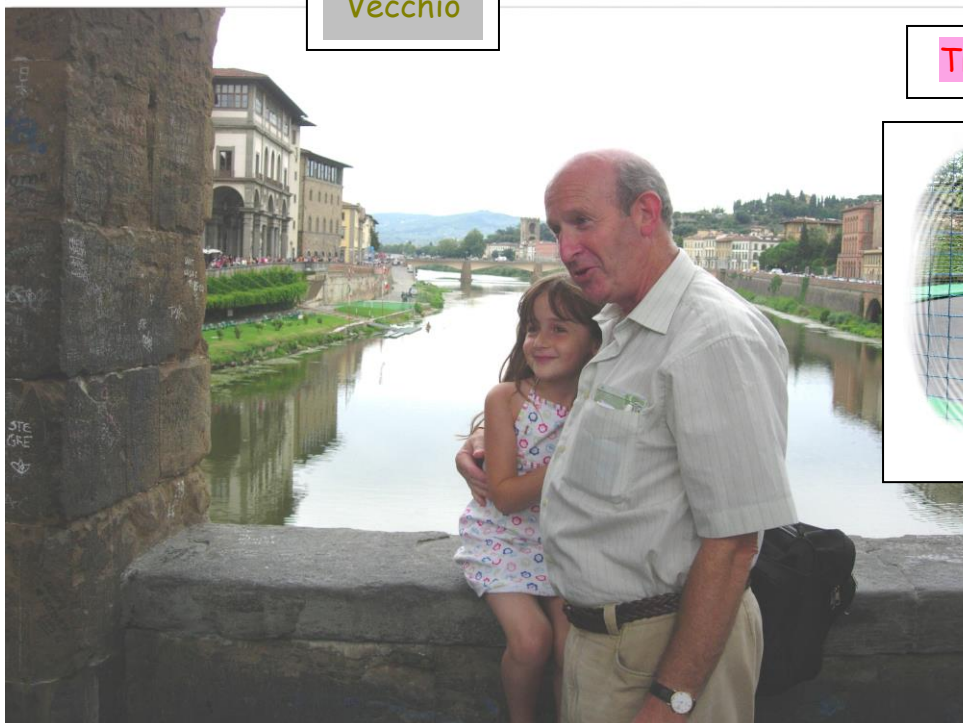




We took the train to Florence and walked for ages. It is still as lovely as always but there are loads of tourists everywhere



On The
Ponte
Vecchio



Trampoline fun





An informal meal outside our villa and Larnie in the pool





The fawn in the vineyard opposite



Late night pizza





Meeting the other kids

In the hills just below the villa was a converted olive press farm and large vineyard where they organised a field day trip that Larnie really enjoyed. Around twenty kids of different ages and nationalities went to feed the tame small pigs and geese and then went on a tractor cart to pick lavender, fruit and vegetables



"...and it even fits me Grandma"

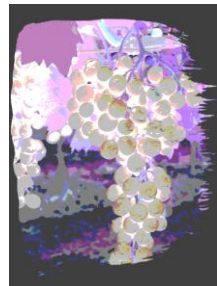
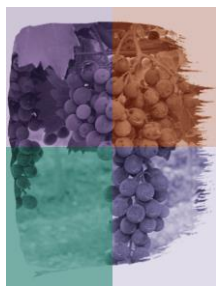


The children are just at the farm in the corner





Fruit and lavender for Mum Dad





Franco proudly showing Larnie
his vineyard



The Commis chef resting
before the rush





A great barbecue evening in the Tuscan Hills with Mum and Larnie



The Barbecue preparation



At the Barbecue



